

The New England College of Optometry

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Bulletin of
The New England College of Optometry



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1977-79



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

The New England College of Optometry prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, creed, marital or parental status, or national origin in the recruitment and admission of students, the recruitment and employment of faculty and staff, and the operation of its programs and activities, as specified by federal and state laws and regulations.



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1 Introductory Information

The Profession

Optometry is the third largest independent health profession in the United States.

Historically, optometrists have performed clinical refractions and prescribed conventional vision aids. Today, the optometrist's responsibilities have been expanded to include the prevention, diagnosis, and remediation of problems of the visual system, as well as improvement of the visual environment and of the patient's ability to perform efficiently in that environment.

The number of optometrists has not kept pace with the need, and job forecasting studies indicate that the nation will need more than 20,000 additional optometrists by 1980. Currently, some 18,000 optometrists are distributed in 6,237 municipalities.

The Doctor of Optometry degree is a prerequisite for licensure eligibility in every state. Individual states, of course, may impose their own additional requirements for licensure — such as State Board Examinations, National Board Examinations, and practical examinations in clinical optometry.

In the past, the optometrist cared for patients primarily in a private practice setting, but this role is changing. Most optometrists continue to maintain private practices. More and more of them, though, practice in clinical settings, or are involved in government service, industrial consulting, school consulting, teaching, and research.

A career in optometry offers the opportunity of providing a vital and growing health care service.

The College

History

The New England College of Optometry was until July, 1976, known as the Massachusetts College of Optometry. Although its name is new, it is one of the oldest optometric institutions in America. It was established in 1894 as the Klein School of Optics. The Klein School of Optics gave way to the Massachusetts School of Optometry, which was incorporated in 1901.

By 1946, the school, like the profession, had come of age. A number of achievements followed in quick succession:

- 1946: The school acquired a non-profit charter.
- 1947: The school was accredited by the Council on Education and Professional Guidance.
- 1950: The name of the institution was changed to the Massachusetts College of Optometry, reflecting its new status as an institution of higher learning.
- 1950: The college received the right to confer the degree of Bachelor of Science in Optometry.
- 1951: Right was granted to the College to confer the Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) and the honorary Doctor of Ocular Science degrees.
- 1952: The College was accorded the right to grant still another honorary degree — the Doctor of Humane Letters.

The College's seventy-fifth year, 1969, represents another important bench mark. One of the goals set at that time was to expand the College's physical plant to enable it to enroll more students in response to manpower needs in the profession and to respond to a dramatic increase in numbers of students seeking to become optometrists. Since that time, the College has moved into quarters with four times more classroom and laboratory space. In addition, the number of affiliations with external clinic facilities has expanded from one in 1969 to 22 in 1976 — an expansion that has made possible a significant increase in the clinical training students receive.

The graduating class in 1969 consisted of 40 students. Each class in the regular four-year O.D. program now numbers approximately eighty students.



Between 1970 and 1976, the number of qualified applicants to the four-year program rose from 117 to 758, and the average GPA of entering students rose from 2.45 to 3.20.

New programs have been added, too — all of which are discussed in detail in other sections of this catalog. Briefly, they include a two-calendar-year O.D. degree program for persons who have earned Ph.D. degrees in the sciences, and a two-year optometric technicians program conducted in cooperation with Fisher Junior College. Residencies in pediatric optometry and in rehabilitative optometry are being established.

The change of name in 1976 from the Massachusetts College of Optometry to The New England College of Optometry more appropriately reflects the institution's constituency. More than 65 per cent of all students at the College are from one of the six New England states. Approximately 70 per cent of all optometrists currently practicing in New England graduated from this institution. The College's ties to the region, its commitment to fulfilling its role in providing primary health care to the people of New England, are central to its mission.

The new name signals still another period of major growth. Changes taking place now focus on implementation of a redesigned professional degree curriculum model. That curriculum is described in this catalog and will be in place at the start of the 1977-78 academic year.





Location

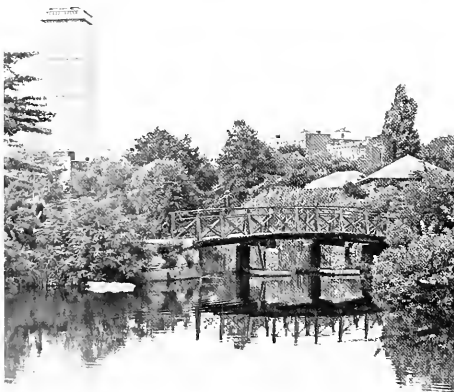
The central facilities of The New England College of Optometry are located on historic Beacon Street in Boston, bordering the Charles River. Boston's Public Gardens, the Museum of Fine Arts, Symphony Hall, the Boston Public Library, Fenway Park, and the ultra-modern Prudential Center are all within one mile of the campus.

For sports enthusiasts, biking, sailing, and tennis facilities are available along the Charles River. In summer, Boston "Pops" concerts are performed outside along the Charles.

All year 'round, Boston's international restaurants, historic sites, and professional theater offer many opportunities for enjoyment. New England beaches are only a short drive from the city, and the finest skiing in the Northeast is about a three-hour drive north of Boston. In addition, the well-known recreational areas of Cape Cod, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine are all within accessible driving distance of Boston — the "Hub" of New England.

Accreditation

The College is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and by the Council on Education of the American Optometric Association, the official accrediting body for schools and colleges of optometry. It is approved by the Veterans Administration for study under Public Law 358.





2 The Four-Year Program

The primary purpose of the educational program is to prepare optometrists whose competence can be applied effectively to the solution of human problems and the achievement of human potential. The curriculum is, therefore, designed to teach students skills, knowledge, and attitudes which will prepare them to practice optometry in a way that responds to their patients' needs.

Though an increasing number of optometrists can be expected to specialize, most optometrists will continue to be engaged in general practice. They see, for the most part, patients who have determined that they need visual care or periodic evaluation of their visual status. Less frequently, they serve patients referred by other health professionals.

The principal functions of the optometrist in general practice are the diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the visual system. To perform these functions, he or she must thoroughly understand the stimuli which initiate vision, the anatomy and physiology of structures which mediate vision, and the way in which visual information is processed and factors which affect that processing.

This body of knowledge is called vision science. Vision science is not a distinct basic science but an organization of all knowledge that provides information about structures related to vision and how the visual process works. Mastery of vision science enables the optometrist to diagnose and treat most problems of the visual system since most stem from aberrations in condition, function, or behavior.

Most optometrists will continue to be first-contact health professionals, typically serving patients who have come on their own initiative rather than through referral by another health professional. As primary health professionals, they will need an understanding of certain aspects of health sciences if they are to be competent to deal with ocular conditions which are common, self-limiting, simply diagnosed, and treated in an ambulatory care setting. They also need to be able to identify patients with treatable ocular disease and to see that such patients receive appropriate treatment. Further, they must develop the ability to recognize early signs of health problems other than



visual problems because many systemic diseases are detectable by visual or ocular clues or are manifested by other observations or tests accessible to optometrists. The patient may not yet recognize the symptoms of the disease, or may have chosen to ignore them. Optometrists serve their patients best when they thoroughly understand the epidemiology of health problems. The role of the general optometrist in such instances is to counsel, continue to observe, or refer patients to other health practitioners.

General optometrists also must know when to refer patients to other optometrists with special training and experience in a particular optometric specialty. The general optometrist would, for instance, refer to an optometric specialist small infants (whose visual assessment requires special skills the general optometrist has not normally acquired); children with vision problems associated with other developmental disabilities; patients with strabismus; patients with low vision whose rehabilitation requires special appliances and procedures; and patients with visual problems associated with unusual environments.

The general optometrist should, then, have appropriate attitudes, knowledge, skill, and competence to provide primary vision care; to detect early signs of ocular, neurological, behavioral, and systemic health problems and to refer patients

exhibiting such signs to appropriate health professionals; to counsel patients concerning good health habits and the prevention of visual problems; and to manage curative or preventive regimens in consultation with other health practitioners.

The major goal of the educational program at The New England College of Optometry is to produce such a health care practitioner.

The program designed to achieve this complex goal is as thorough and logically consistent as we have been able to make it. It is designed to provide (a) a fundamental knowledge of the vision and basic health sciences in such a way that they can be applied readily in the practice of optometry and (b) a fundamental knowledge of and extensive experience in general optometric patient care. Broadly speaking, the program introduces the student to the various vision and support sciences over the first half of the program, gradually blending over the final half into material oriented toward optometry, and finally a high content of clinical experience.

The Curriculum

The College's academic organization is designed to facilitate the development of a health care practitioner with the attributes we have discussed.

There are four divisions in the academic structure:

- Vision Sciences
- Basic Health Sciences
- Primary Optometry
- Special and Community Services

A number of discrete topical instruction units are offered within each of the four divisions. While several of these units may be integrated within a given course, teaching responsibility for each topical unit rests with one faculty member.

Topical units within the Divisions of Primary Optometry and of Special and Community Services are referred to as *competence units* because they involve the *application* of knowledge, skill, and insight in diagnosis and treatment. They are derived directly from our definition of the role of the general optometrist and our perception of the scope of general optometric practice.



Study units within the Divisions of Vision Sciences and of Basic Health Sciences are called *knowledge units* because each involves some portion of a body of scientific principles, theories, and information that must be understood. These units serve the core curriculum by providing the knowledge base essential to development of competence in the general practice of optometry. Their content is determined by its relevance to the mastery of one or more competence units.

To qualify for the O.D. degree, a student is required to demonstrate mastery of knowledge in each unit within the four divisions.

Students also may elect or be selectively assigned to



courses for any of a variety of purposes: remedial, elevation of competence, pursuit of special interests, preparation for post-graduate specialization, or further graduate study.

Vision Sciences Division

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the curriculum in the Vision Sciences Division is to provide the foundation of knowledge in optics and an understanding of the structure and function of the visual system and its disorders.

To that end, the student studies a broad range of topics, including anatomy; geometrical, physical, physiological; and ophthalmic optics; pharmacology; and pathology. The course material provides the student with specific scientific information and with the rational basis for clinical optometry. More generally, the study of vision sciences acquaints the student with scientific methodology and technology, so that he or she will be competent to evaluate future demands and developments independently.

Educational Plan

Topics in the Vision Sciences Division curriculum are presented in sequence, beginning with the general and proceeding to the specific.

In the first year, the comprehensive study of the normal structure of the vision system is conducted in a series of topical instruction units covering ocular anatomy and embryology and the neuroanatomy of the sensory and motor pathways of the visual system. The foundation for more advanced topics in optics is

provided through the study of geometrical optics — which includes the topics of reflection, refraction, and optical aberrations of mirrors, prisms, and lenses — and of the properties of some basic optical systems, including microscopes and telescopes. In the area of physiological optics, topics included relate to the biochemical and biophysical properties of the eye, eye movements, and an analysis of the optical components of the eye.

In the second year, the physical aspects of electro-magnetic radiation are considered within the framework of wave and quantum theory, and the principles of the measurement and specification of light are explained. Presentation of the concepts relating to our understanding of visual perception begins with a study of the visual photopigments and proceeds to descriptions, theories, and neurophysiological correlates of various visual sensations, including dark adaptation, brightness perception, color vision, perception of distance and size, stereopsis, and the process of visual perception development.

In the third year, there is a more elaborate consideration of the theories of visual perception and the interrelationships between vision and the other senses. A suitable base for the understanding of how disease can modify the visual system has, by this point, already been provided by the study of the normal structure and function of the visual system. In the study of disease processes, the pathological manifestations are presented at both the gross and microscopic level, and the sensory and motor deficits accompanying disease are analyzed. Ocular pharmacology is studied at a basic level to provide an understanding of the modes of action of pharmacologic agents generally and the systemic effects of various ophthalmic drugs.

In the fourth year, interested students may continue their study of basic visual science in elective courses. Electives range in emphasis from pure research to applied research and/or fundamentally clinical studies. Some electives are designed to acquaint the student with those recent developments in vision science which have clinical implications.

Basic Health Sciences Division

Purpose and Scope

The overall purpose of the Basic Health Sciences Division is to provide the student with an understanding of the normal and abnormal functions and behavior of the human organism.

Background in the fundamental biochemical and biophysical mechanisms is provided, as well as in the physiological and pathophysiological processes at all levels, from the subcellular through the cells, tissues, and organs of the human body.

Curricular topics include biochemistry, histology, histopathology, microbiology, and immunology, as well as general physiology, pathophysiology, medical genetics, epidemiology, and pharmacology. Emphasis is placed on the way in which behavioral processes influence seeing, and the student learns how motivational, learning, and personality factors influence perceptual-motor behavior. Students learn techniques for the design and evaluation of experiments, as well as psychophysical methodology and the statistical analysis of data.

Educational Plan

In the first year, emphasis is placed on the basic biological sciences. The student studies biochemistry, histology, endocrinology, neuroanatomy, and neurophysiology. In the behavioral sciences, sensory and perceptual psychology and learning theory are taught.

In the second year, the curriculum is oriented toward the physiological and biomedical sciences. The student studies general physiology, medical genetics, immunology, pathophysiology, microbiology, and epidemiology. The behavioral sciences curriculum includes psychometrics and developmental psychology.

In the third year, the clinical aspects of psychological principles are emphasized. The student studies abnormal psychology, techniques of interviewing and counseling, and human factors analysis.

In the fourth year, the student undertakes extended study of general pharmacological principles, many of

which were earlier introduced in several basic courses dealing with physiological function at the cellular level.

Primary Optometry Division

Purpose and Scope

The Primary Optometry Division is charged with providing the student with the applied knowledge, specific skills, clinical insights, and patient-handling capabilities required of the optometrist in general practice. Primary optometry emphasizes rational diagnosis and therapy, but includes also approaches to patient care based upon empirical knowledge.

Areas of concern include:

- general characteristics of human vision problems
- measurement of the ocular refractive state
- ophthalmic lenses, devices, and appliances
- neurosecretory mechanisms
- assessment of binocularity status
- clinical diagnosis
- clinical optometric therapy
- screening methodologies used to detect ocular and systemic disease states





Educational Plan

In the first year, instruction in the Primary Optometry Division is directed principally toward terminology, and toward a rudimentary understanding of the ametropias and anomalies of accommodation — with the additional goal of developing a standard set of clinical skills.

In the second year, the student acquires an in-depth understanding of the ametropias and accommodative anomalies. He or she learns clinical optics and acquires certain opticianry skills; is introduced to means for evaluating motor and sensory anomalies of vision and methods of assessing the status of binocularity; and is introduced to clinical pathology. In special clinical laboratories, the student is taught more advanced testing methods, procedures useful in general and ocular health assessment, and the principles of emergency care. In second-year clinic, the student gains experience in the execution of each of the basic examination procedures learned in the pre-clinical laboratory. Under the guidance of a preceptor, he or she develops skills needed to take case histories, and learns to correlate optometric findings in order to detect paradoxical findings and/or erroneous data. The student develops clinical insights into the treatment and management of uncomplicated visual problems. Through observation of a preceptor and through direct patient involvement, he or she develops the basic skills of patient management.

In the third year, the student obtains an in-depth understanding of clinical evaluation of visual function. He or she studies further the diseases of the eye and learns how these are diagnosed. Concepts related to the fitting of contact lenses are introduced. The student attends laboratories designed to insure proficiency in the application of advanced clinical techniques. In pathology laboratories, the student learns about the detection of diseases and the referral of patients suspected of having disease. In the clinic, the student's skills in diagnosis, case analysis, prescription, patient management, and interprofessional cooperation are sharpened. The student acquires the attitudes and demeanor of the

health professional; attains clinical skills related to general health assessment; and comes to appreciate the role of the primary health practitioner. He or she learns how to apply the principles of clinical epidemiology and the skills of the first-contact health professional to patients with previously undetected health problems. Finally, the student develops the ability to formulate judgments consistent with each patient's best interest.

In the fourth professional year, the student develops a thorough understanding of clinical pharmacology, especially as this relates to the clinical use of ocular diagnostic drugs. Skills related to interprofessional cooperation and referral are further refined. In the clinic, the student further develops his or her clinical skills and gains experience working within various health delivery models. Students acquire diverse experiences by working with patient populations that have widely varying clinical characteristics. Clinical seminars contribute to the maturation of the student's professional judgment and clinical wisdom.



Special and Community Services Division

Purpose and Scope

The Division of Special and Community Services provides core instruction in rehabilitative, pediatric, environmental, and public health optometry.

Rehabilitative optometry includes consideration of deterrents to normal binocularity (such as aniseikonia); corneal conditions amenable to optical restoration; low vision which can be ameliorated; certain unusual sensory visual problems; and conditions requiring ocular prostheses.

Core curriculum offerings in pediatric optometry include an overview of the evaluation of infant vision; presumptive diagnosis of strabismus; and the identification of vision problems associated with developmental behavioral disorders.

Faculties in these specialties also serve the core curriculum by preparing students to cooperate effectively with pediatric optometrists, rehabilitative optometrists, and environmental and industrial optometrists in the treatment of those unusual problems for which such professionals are specifically trained.

The faculties in pediatric and rehabilitative optometry are responsible for organizing and supervising clinical teaching programs involving special population groups with high prevalences of unusual vision problems.

The subject matter of environmental optometry is designed to prepare students to analyze and solve problems of the eye or visual process arising through the patient's interaction with the physical environment. Special visual problems can arise from both normal variations and unfavorable alterations in the environment, as well as from performance demands or safety hazards. Such problems, which can affect individuals or groups, are not usually amenable to standard medical, refractive, or vision therapy diagnosis and solutions in the special environment of the optometric office.

Core curriculum offerings in public health include practice development, health administration, health education, and epidemiology.

A major function of the faculties in rehabilitative,

pediatric, and environmental optometry is to provide residency training in these specialties (see page 45). The public health faculty organizes and directs the College's vision screening programs (see page 15.)

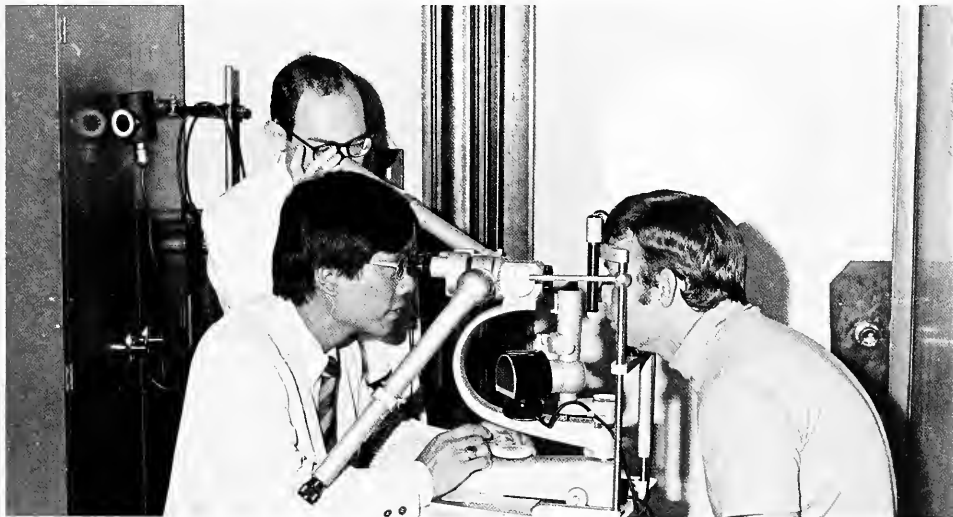
While the curriculum in the Primary Optometry Division prepares the student to diagnose and treat common visual problems, the four faculties which constitute the Special and Community Services Division are concerned primarily with teaching the future general optometrist to recognize *unusual* problems and to work with specialists who are able to ameliorate these problems.

Educational Plan

Didactic instruction in the specialty areas is offered in the third year. Emphasis is on diagnosis, which requires a thorough understanding of the content of primary optometry, visual science, and the basic health sciences.

Clinical experience with children and the elderly is provided by a twelve-week clinical rotation scheduled during the fourth year. Rotations are structured so that each student sees patients from the two respective populations on alternate days. Field work in environmental optometry and in vision screening is offered during the third and fourth years. Instructional units in public health are offered in the third and fourth years.

In addition to didactic and clinical teaching, the public health faculty is responsible for developing methods for increasing student awareness of new developments in health care planning and legislation affecting the delivery of optometric care. This faculty also is charged with the responsibility of inculcating appropriate attitudes regarding ethics of patient care and professional community responsibilities through seminars, visiting lecturers, and the use of preceptors who work with the student in clinical settings.



The Clinical Experience

Broadly speaking, the objective of the clinical experience is to help optometric students become competent patient care professionals who can apply scientific knowledge, tempered by clinical insight and overall concern for the patient, in order to solve problems of vision.

The clinical experience is designed to bring the student along in discrete steps beginning in the lecture-laboratory setting and progressing to a one-to-one relationship between the student and patient. As the student progresses through the second, third, and fourth year, clinical time increases.

The preceptorship method of clinical teaching is used throughout the program. Initially, close supervision is exercised; supervision is gradually relaxed as the student develops greater clinical proficiency and assumes more responsibility. The role of the preceptor gradually changes from that of an overseer to that of a consultant as the student progresses from the second through the fourth academic year.



Through the clinic system, each student meets a broad spectrum of patients, practices a comprehensive range of eye-care skills under professional supervision, becomes familiar with different systems for the delivery of health services, and learns to work effectively with practitioners from other health disciplines.

Students serve clinical rotations in five types of clinics: general vision care clinics, neighborhood health centers, multi-service agencies' eye clinics, specialty clinics, and outreach programs.

The New England College of Optometry operates three internal clinics. Two specialty clinics, providing pediatric and rehabilitative services, are located at the Beacon Street campus. A few blocks away, the Kenmore Square Clinic Facility offers general, contact lens, pathology, and ocular photographic services.

The College also maintains a large number of clinic affiliations with existing health care institutions in which students receive training in multidisciplinary health care delivery centers. Currently, institutions with which the College is affiliated and at which students receive clinical training include:

General

Dimock Community Health Center — Eye Care Service

Dorchester House Multi-Service Center — Eye Care Unit

South End Community Health Center — Eye Care Center

Huntington General Osteopathic Hospital
U. S. Public Health Service Hospital

Central State Hospital (Milledgeville, Georgia)
Hadassah University Hospital (Jerusalem, Israel)
University of Massachusetts Health Services (Amherst)
Mary Imogene Basset Hospital (Cooperstown, New York)

Walter Reed Medical Center (Washington, D. C.)

Pediatric

Dimock Community Health Center — Eye Care Service

Dorchester House Multi-Service Center — Eye Care Unit

Cotting School for Handicapped Children

Rehabilitative

Boston University Medical Center — Gundersen Eye Clinic

Veterans Administration Outpatient Clinic
Suffolk House of Correction

Technician Clinical Teaching Facilities

Carpenters Vision Care Center
Massachusetts Laborers Vision Center
Teamsters Eye Clinic

Additionally, the College offers Community Vision Screening Programs in which staff and equipment for general vision screening are set up in schools, neighborhoods, housing developments, or at industrial plants — anywhere that large numbers of people are concentrated. Visual problems identified through such programs are then referred to appropriate eye care professionals for follow-up.

The wide network of clinics allows the student to see patients from all age groups and from a broad array of geographical and cultural settings.

The system permits students to learn to work effectively with professionals from disciplines such as ophthalmology, neurology, pediatrics, psychiatry, internal medicine, and psychology.

Each student has rendered primary care to several hundred patients by the time he or she graduates.

Educational Objectives

The educational objectives of The New England College of Optometry are:

- (1) to provide general education to insure intellectual growth and scholarly development; to provide education in the basic health sciences in order to foster understanding of biologic phenomena, principles, and mechanisms that bear upon appreciation of both the non-pathologic and the diseased human state; and to provide education in the vision sciences so that the student can come to understand and appreciate rational methodology as applied to the diagnosis and treatment of human visual conditions;
- (2) to provide the student with clinical optometric measurement skills and a comprehensive understanding of the various non-pathological anomalies of vision and the means by which these visual anomalies can be corrected;
- (3) to make the student thoroughly familiar with ophthalmic lenses, devices, and appliances, and their respective clinical applications;
- (4) to equip the student, through experience acquired in a controlled clinical environment, with skills used in patient interviewing and counseling as well as with other patient management skills;
- (5) to provide opportunities for patient care experiences under the guidance of experienced preceptors so that the student acquires skills needed in order to make sound clinical judgments;
- (6) to inculcate in the optometry student the attitudes and skills of the primary health care professional as these relate not only to the early detection of visual system pathology, but also to the recognition of early signs of high-incidence disease that may or may not affect the visual system;
- (7) to enable the student to acquire an appropriate professional demeanor;

- (8) to familiarize the student both with general and ocular emergency procedures;
- (9) to teach the student to interact effectively, both with optometrists and with non-optometric health care professionals, in the interest of the patient's general well-being;
- (10) to provide the student with knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will enable him or her to serve as a community resource both in matters of applied visual science and in matters of more general concern, such as disease prevention and sound health practice;
- (11) to equip the student with appropriate technology and protocol so that he or she may design and execute effective programs of vision screening among various kinds of patient populations;
- (12) to enable the student to detect and to refer appropriately patient problems that require the skills of an optometrist trained in a specialty area such as pediatric, rehabilitative, or environmental optometry; and
- (13) to familiarize the student with the various legitimate modes of optometric practice and to provide him or her with insight into the administration and operation of the typical multidisciplinary health center.

Calendar

Each of the first three professional years consists of two semesters. The fourth year operates on a quarter system. This permits more effective scheduling of clinical activities since much of the fourth-year clinical experience is gained in "external" clinics at affiliated institutions. Each fourth-year student must complete one didactic quarter and two clinical quarters.

Conversion to a quarter system for all four years of the program is currently under consideration.

During the four years of professional study, lectures account for about 35 per cent of all formally scheduled student hours; laboratories and problem sessions, for about 15 per cent; and clinical experience, for approximately 50 per cent.





Study Units

Vision Sciences

Lower Division

Ocular Anatomy
 Neuroanatomy of the Visual System
 Ocular Embryology
 Ocular Vegetative Physiology
 Ocular Myology
 Geometric Optics
 Visual Optics
 Ophthalmic Optics
 Physical Optics
 Radiometry
 Photometry-Colorimetry
 Visual Photobiology
 Development of Visual Perception
 Temporal Aspects of Vision
 Spatial Aspects of Vision
 Thresholds and Adaptation
 Color Perception
 Visual Neurophysiology
 Visual Space Sense

Upper Division

Ocular Pharmacology
 Ocular Pathology
 Ocular Histopathology
 Visual Neuropathology
 Theories of Visual Perception

Basic Health Sciences

Lower Division

Biochemistry
 Histology
 Cell Physiology
 Human Anatomy
 Neurochemistry
 Microbiology
 Sensory Psychology
 Perceptual Psychology
 Biostatistics
 Organ System Physiology
 Medical Genetics
 Immunology



Endocrinology
Digestive Physiology
Histopathology
Pathophysiology
Neurophysiology
Psychometry
Learning Theory
Developmental Psychology
History of Health Care
Health Economics
Health Law
Health Ethics

Upper Division

Developmental Biology
Abnormal Psychology
Interviewing and Counseling
Information Theory
Pharmacology
Human Factors Analysis

Primary Optometry

Lower Division

Ametropias and Accommodative Anomalies
Ametropias and Accommodative Anomalies
Measurement Laboratory
Motor Anomalies of Vision
Anomalies of the Lacrimal System
Binocular Anomalies
Binocular Anomalies Measurement and Evaluation
Laboratory
Clinical Optics
Clinical Optics Laboratory
Preceptor Clinical Demonstrations
General Clinic I (Basic Techniques)
Contact Lenses/Contact Lens Fitting
Contact Lens Materials/Contact Lens Fitting
Laboratory

Ocular Health Assessment
Ocular Health Assessment Laboratory
General Health Assessment
General Health Assessment Laboratory
Ocular Status Specification
Ocular Status Specification Laboratory

Upper Division

Sensory Anomalies of Vision

Case History Taking and Analysis
General Clinic II (Diagnosis, Treatment, and Management)
Advanced Aspects of Problems of Motility and Binocularity
Advanced Optometric Techniques and Methods
Advanced Optometric Techniques and Methods Laboratory
Contact Lens Clinic
Ocular Health Assessment
Ocular Health Assessment Laboratory
General Emergency Care
General Emergency Care Laboratory
Ocular Emergency Care
Ocular Emergency Care Laboratory

Special and Community Services

Lower Division, Special Services

— None —

Lower Division, Community Services

Epidemiology
Visual Gerontology

Upper Division, Special Services

Vision Development
Developmental Vision Testing Laboratory
Behavioral Testing Laboratory
Assessment of Infant Vision
Strabismus
Strabismus Testing Laboratory
Pediatric Health Assessment
Pediatric Ophthalmology
Visual Performance
Vision Screening
Optical Restoration
Binocular Restoration
Low Vision
Design of Visual Environments
Ocular Prostheses

Upper Division, Community Services

Health Education
Health Administration
Practice Development
Rehabilitative Optometry Clinic
Pediatric Optometry Clinic



3 Admission

Admission Policies

The New England College of Optometry attempts to identify and admit students who are firmly committed to, and have sound aptitudes for, improving the human condition through the profession of optometry. In practice, then, the College looks for students with a background of traditional courses in the arts and special capability in three areas: biological, physical, and behavioral sciences.

Generally, the College maintains a flexible admissions policy. While we look for students with superior science aptitude, we recognize that excellent academic performance in other subject areas is also an important indicator of probable success in optometry.

We expect students to participate actively in the learning processes available to them here. We anticipate that they will both demand and help to provide a climate conducive to active learning.

In an effort to insure that the students we accept will succeed both in their studies at the College and in the profession of optometry, we attempt to select only students who have:

- strong commitment to learning
- high sense of social concern
- great respect for individual dignity
- strong desire to become an optometrist
- ability to understand the responsibility and societal obligations of professionals.

We examine all obtainable data which can serve to indicate the student's possession of the above characteristics. Factors we have found particularly useful include:

- recommendations of applicants by people of respected judgment
- grade point average
- scholastic aptitude test scores
- university or college attended
- Optometry College Admission Test scores
- content of courses pursued in pre-optometric college education
- extra-curricular activities
- ability to communicate and articulate
- academic potential
- leadership potential
- personality and demeanor
- medical history





Characteristics of the average student at the College have changed considerably over the past decade. The number of applications for admission has increased more than threefold since 1970, and scholastic credentials of applicants generally have improved significantly.

In 1976, 79 of the 84 enrollees in the entering class possessed at least a baccalaureate degree, and ten had advanced degrees. The mean G.P.A. for the 1976 entering class was 3.20.

Students with just two years of undergraduate work are encouraged to apply for admission only if they have unusually strong academic records and high test scores.

Applicants from all states and foreign countries are considered for admission. However, arrangements are being developed with the six New England states (Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire) wherein the states provide the College with financial support and the College agrees to accept sufficient numbers of qualified applicants from each of these states to assure that the area's future optometric manpower needs will be met. Currently, while only about half of all applicants to the College are New England residents, approximately two-thirds of all students accepted for admission are residents of this region.

The New England College of Optometry prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, creed, marital or parental status, or national origin in the recruitment of students and the operation of all programs and activities.

Entrance Requirements

A curriculum designed to educate individuals in the optometric profession must begin at a fairly complex level. Consequently, students entering such a program must have a basic prerequisite knowledge to insure minimal difficulty with material presented in the educational program.

To be considered for admission, applicants must have completed the following course work satisfactorily:

- (1) A minimum of two years of study at an accredited college or university. (Students who meet only this minimal educational background requirement should have demonstrated unusually strong academic achievement.)
- (2) Specific courses:

Chemistry	one year (including organic chemistry)
Biology	one year (including topics of cell structure and cell physiology)
Mathematics	one year (including calculus)
Physics	one year
English	one year
Psychology	one semester
Statistics	one semester
Humanities	two years
Social Sciences	two years

The College offers summer courses in organic chemistry and statistics for students of high scholarship who have not completed these particular requirements.

Application Instructions

Application for admission to the College should be filed at the earliest possible date after September 1. The deadline for completion of the application process is March 1. Applications completed after this date are seldom considered for the next entering class. Applicants are required to submit the following:

1. A completed application form, along with a check or money order in the amount of \$50 payable to The New England College of Optometry. The application fee is non-refundable.
2. Official transcripts of all secondary schools and colleges attended, plus results of the Optometry College Admission Test, and all other standardized tests (SAT, CEEB Achievement Tests, Graduate Record Exam, etc.) Arrangements can be made for taking the Optometry College Admission Test by contacting the Psychological Corporation at 304 East 45th Street, New York, New York 10017. It is strongly urged that applicants take the test no later than the fall of the year preceding the desired admission date.
3. At least two letters of recommendation. If the college attended has a professional recommendation committee, one letter must come

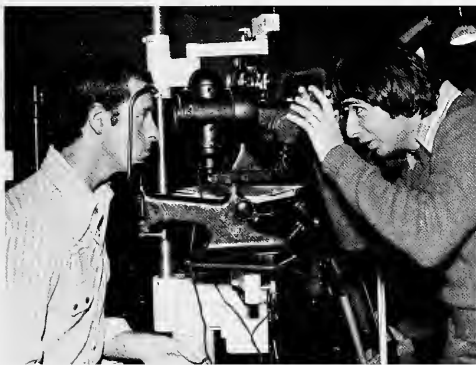
from that group. (Letters from instructors or professors may be substituted when no such committee exists.) These committee recommendations usually are a composite or series of letters, but count in total as just one recommendation. A second letter must be submitted from a non-relative who knows the applicant well — preferably, but not necessarily, a health professional.

Interviews with at least two members of the Admissions Committee are required in all but exceptional instances. Interviews are initiated by the Committee; however, students who wish to make arrangements to visit the school for counsel prior to formal application, are invited to request an appointment.

Application forms and complete details can be obtained from:

Dean of Student Affairs
The New England College of Optometry
424 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

All material submitted to the College in the course of the admissions procedure becomes the property of the College. It will be respected for its confidentiality, but will not be returned or forwarded.



Transfer Students

When openings in advanced classes permit, the College accepts students currently enrolled in an accredited school or college of optometry. Placement is contingent upon satisfactory completion of courses equivalent to those in The New England College of Optometry curriculum.

Transfer credits are accepted only after review of the applicant's optometry school transcript by the Academic Dean and the Dean of Student Affairs. Official approval and certification of good academic standing is required from the dean of the school the applicant is currently attending.

Veterans Policy

Eligible veterans are especially encouraged to apply for admission.

The New England College of Optometry is approved for study under Public Law 348. Veterans covered by this law are expected to pay all charges in the same manner as non-veterans. Their tuition deposit is returned when their certificate of eligibility is received by the Registrar, who serves as the veterans counselor.

The Registrar will assist all qualified veterans in securing funds from the Veterans Administration, certify their attendance at the College, and process V.A. forms in order to expedite payment to the veteran.

Special financial help is also made available when needed.

Information concerning the Veterans Work-Study Program can be found on page 26.

Grievance Procedure

The College has instituted a formal grievance procedure for students who feel they have been discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. That procedure is described in the Academic Information section of this bulletin (page 35).





4 Financial Information

Tuition and Fees

Four-Year O.D. Program

	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81
1st year	\$3600	\$3800	\$4000	\$4000
2nd year	3600	3800	4000	4000
3rd year	3400	3800	4000	4000
4th year	3200	3600	4000	4000

Two-Year O.D. Program

1st year	4600	5000	5500	5500
2nd year	4200	5000	5500	5500

Fees currently in effect are:

Application fee	\$50
Tuition deposit payable upon notification of acceptance; applies toward tuition	\$500
Activities fee (due at registration)	\$ 30

All tuition and fees are due and payable on or before the first day of registration at the beginning of each semester or quarter. No student may complete registration or attend classes without having paid all charges in full or making appropriate arrangements to do so with the Dean of Student Affairs.

The Board of Trustees of the College establishes tuition and fee rates, usually at its February meeting preceding the academic year in which the rates take effect. Therefore, the above figures represent current best estimates. The Board of Trustees must reserve the right to change tuition and fees with no less than ninety days' prior notice.

Refund Policy

Tuition and fees are refunded to the student who withdraws or is dismissed from the College in accordance with the following formula:

Withdrawal Date	Percentage of Tuition and Fees Refunded
Prior to the first day of class	100 per cent less \$100
During the first two weeks	75 per cent
During the first four weeks	50 per cent
During the first eight weeks	25 per cent



Financial Aid

The College administers limited funds to assist qualified students in meeting the financial obligations attendant to their studies. This aid may be in the form of scholarships, loans, part-time jobs, participation in the College Work Study Program (supported by the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare), or a combination of these. Most loans are based on need alone, while scholarships usually are based on both need and academic achievement. Students also are urged to seek financial aid from outside sources.

Applicants for financial aid, whether new or returning students, must file the following forms with the office of the Dean of Student Affairs:

1. A College Financial Aid Application, available from the office of the Dean of Student Affairs.
2. A College Scholarship Service (CSS) application. CSS forms are available through the office of the Dean of Student Affairs or by writing to the College Scholarship Service at Box 176, Princeton, New Jersey 08548. (All students who may apply for funds other than through the College are strongly urged to have a copy of the CSS needs analysis on file for reference.)

3. **A Parents' Confidential Statement.** It is a fundamental principle of financial aid that the student's first resource must be his or her own earning capacity, followed by the income and assets of the immediate family. This Statement is required, therefore, regardless of the applicant's age or status. Forms are available from the office of the Dean of Student Affairs.

Copies of the parents' and student's federal and state income tax returns are required to assure eligibility for financial aid under certain programs.

Applications for financial aid are not renewable and must be filed each year no later than May 15 if the student is to be considered for aid the following year.

Loans

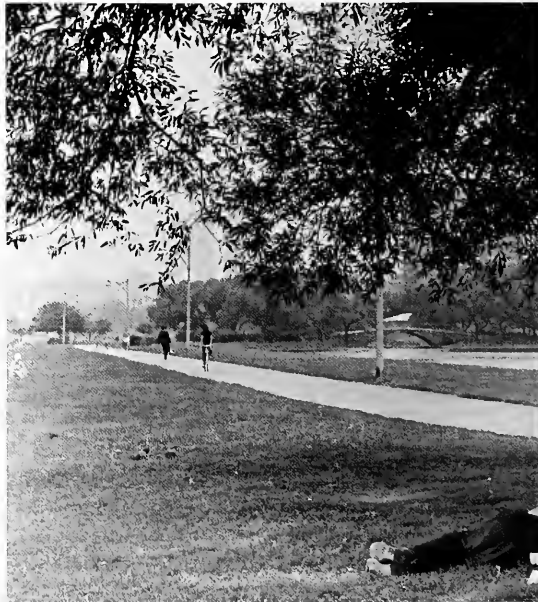
1. **Source:** Federal Health Profession Loan Program
Amount: \$2,500, plus cost of tuition per year*
Conditions: Determined financial need
Student in good academic standing
Repayment: Ten-year period, interest begins accruing one year after graduation
Interest: 7 per cent annual interest*

*Effective October 1, 1977

2. **Source:** National Direct Student Loan Program**
Amount: Combined total of \$10,000 for undergraduate and graduate years
Conditions: Determined financial need
Student in good academic standing
Repayment: Ten-year period, interest accruing nine months after graduation
Interest: 3 per cent annual interest (pending federal legislation)

**Students who receive a loan for an academic year must remain in good academic standing in order to receive the second half of their loan at the beginning of the second semester.

3. **Source:** Guaranteed Student Loan Program
Amount: \$2,500 maximum per year (CSS should be on file)
Condition: Student in good academic standing
Repayment: Begins nine months after graduation
Interest: 7 per cent annual interest
Contact: Hometown bank





4. **Source:** New England Higher Education Loan Programs*
- Amount:** Varies by state. Typically, \$1,500 per year maximum
- Repayment:** Varies by state. Typically begins not less than nine months after graduation (with optional renewal note)
- Interest:** Varies by state. Typically 7 per cent simple interest per annum
- Contact:** Connecticut State Department of Education, P.O. Box 1320, Hartford, CT 06115
 Connecticut Student Loan Foundation, 251 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT 06103
 Maine State Department of Education, Augusta, ME 04330
 Massachusetts Higher Education Assistance Corporation, 511 Statler Building, Boston, MA 02116
 New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation, 3 Capitol Street, Concord, NH 03101
 Rhode Island Higher Education Assistance Corporation, Box 579, 187 Westminster Mall, Room 414, Providence, RI 02901
 Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, 156 College, Burlington, VT 05401

*Most other states have similar programs.

5. **Source:** Insured Loans to Health Professions Students
Amount: Up to \$10,000 per year (aggregate of \$50,000)
Condition: Student in good academic standing
Repayment: Ten- to fifteen-year period
Interest: Not to exceed 10 per cent annual interest
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs
6. **Source:** Basic Educational Opportunity Grant
Amount: \$1,000 maximum
Condition: Student must be enrolled in a degree-granting eligible program and not have received his or her first baccalaureate degree
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs
7. **Source:** The New England College of Optometry Alumni Association Emergency Loan Fund
Amount: \$300 maximum
Conditions: Available to cover short-term financial emergencies
Repayment: Within three months
Interest: No interest is charged if the loan is repaid within this period
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs
8. **Source:** The Rose and David Berlowitz Student Assistance Fund
Amount: \$735
Conditions: Needy and deserving
Repayment: Within one year after graduation
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs

College Work-Study Program

The College Work-Study Program, subsidized by the Federal Government, gives the student an opportunity for supplemental income through part-time work at the College. Work opportunities range from building maintenance to laboratory assistance.

Restrictions on the number of hours a student may work under the College Work-Study Program are:

- A maximum of fifteen hours per week during weeks when classes are in session.
- An average of no more than fifteen hours per week during the academic year (September through May). This permits students to work more than fifteen hours a week during vacation periods.
- A maximum of forty hours per week during the summer months.

Preference is given to neediest students. Applicants must demonstrate financial need by filing the same forms required for other forms of assistance — i.e., a Financial Aid Application, a College Scholarship Service application, and a Parents' Confidential Statement.

The Veterans Administration also provides a work-study allowance for veterans pursuing a full-time program of education. The maximum allowance is \$250 for 100 hours of service performed during an enrollment period. No veteran may be awarded a V.A. work-study allowance of more than \$250 in any one fiscal year. When fewer than 100 hours are undertaken, a pro-rata portion of the \$250 is paid.



Scholarships and Fellowships

1. **Name:** The Joseph M. Duffy Fellowship, the Frederick E. Farnum Fellowship, the Otto Hochstadt Fellowship, and the Lynwood W. Storer Fellowship*
- Amount:** Full tuition remission
- Conditions:** Demonstrated academic achievement
Determined financial need
Must represent an ethnic or racial minority group within the United States, or be a citizen of a developing country
- Deadline:** September 1
- Contact:** Office of the Dean of Student Affairs

*These fellowships are offered by the College to (a) improve the visual care of disadvantaged socio-economic groups in the United States or (b) foster the growth of optometry in developing countries having populations receiving minimal visual care.



2. **Name:** Massachusetts Society of Optometrists Scholarship
- Amount:** \$200 annually (up to four awarded)
- Conditions:** Resident of Massachusetts attending any accredited school of optometry
Promise of achievement in the study of optometry
Determined financial need
May be renewed if student is in upper half of class and demonstrates continued need for financial assistance
- Deadline:** November 15
- Contact:** Office of the Dean of Student Affairs



3. **Name:** Alumni Association Tuition Scholarship
Amount: \$200 toward tuition
Conditions: Student in fourth professional year
Determined financial need
Demonstrated academic achievement
Deadline: January 15
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs
4. **Name:** Alumni Association Tuition Scholarships
Amount: Two scholarships, \$300 each, toward tuition
Conditions: Student in other than fourth professional year
Must assist officers of Alumni Association
Demonstrated financial need
Deadline: January 15
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs

5. **Name:** Nikon Scholar Awards
Condition: First-year student
Contact: Nikon Scholar Awards
Nikon, Inc.
Ehrenreich Photo Optical Industries, Inc.
623 Stewart Street
Garden City, New York 11530
6. **Name:** George Cornstock Scholarship
Condition: Connecticut resident
Contact: Dr. Thomas Lane
162 Main Street
Watertown, Connecticut 06795
7. **Name:** State of Connecticut Scholarship Program
Condition: Connecticut resident
Contact: State of Connecticut Scholarship Program
Educational Testing Service
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
8. **Name:** Massachusetts State Scholarships
Conditions: Massachusetts resident
No previous bachelor's degree
Contact: Massachusetts Board of Higher Education
Boston, Massachusetts 02111

9. Name: The Rita Wolff Memorial Scholarship Fund (Sponsored by the Auxiliary to the Massachusetts Society of Optometrists)

Amount: Two \$150 scholarships

Conditions: Massachusetts resident signifying intent to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Student in good academic standing
Student in fourth professional year
Demonstrated financial need

Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs

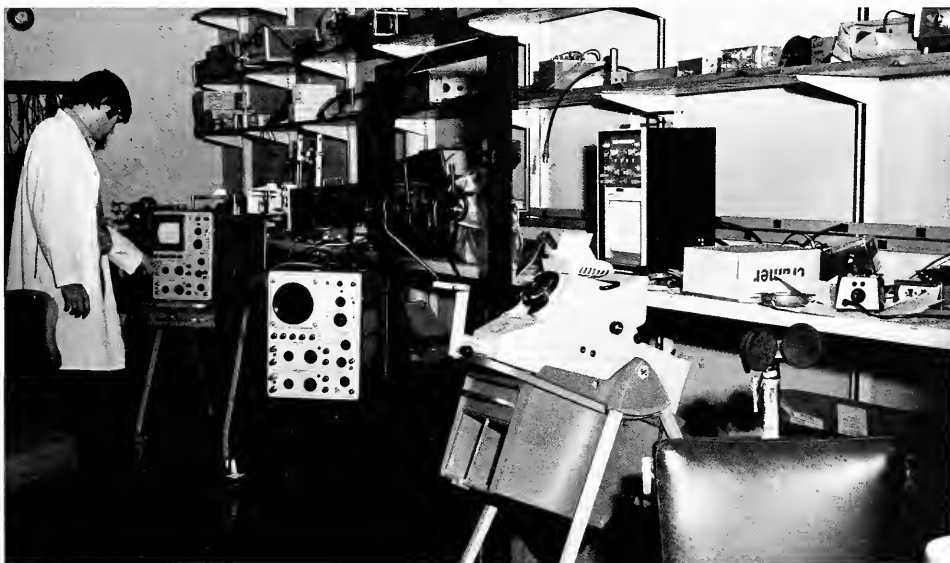
10. Name: American Optometric Foundation Vincent J. Salierno Scholarship Program

Amount: \$1,000 maximum (payments of \$250 are made in September, November, February, and May)

Condition: Student in good academic standing

Deadline: College must screen all applications and forward its recommendations to the AOF office by June 11

Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs



11. **Name:** Foster Namias Scholarship Fund
Amount: Determined by the amount of interest accumulated in the Fund
Conditions: Must be a second- or third-year student
Upper 5 per cent of class scholastically
Need
Must write a biographical sketch
Deadline: January 15
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs

12. **Name:** Theodore F. Klein Award
Amount: \$100
Conditions: Awarded to the first-year student who has achieved the highest scholastic grades
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs

13. **Name:** The Dr. Leslie Mintz Scholarship Award
Conditions: Resident of New Jersey
Enrolled as full-time student in an accredited college of optometry
Demonstrated financial need
Deadline: November 15
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs

14. **Name:** The Class of 1969 Scholarship Fund
Amount: \$100
Conditions: Demonstrated financial need
Outstanding clinical performance
Deadline: January 15
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs

15. **Name:** The Israel and Sylvia Grossman Scholarship Fund
Amount: \$300
Conditions: Demonstrated financial need
Upper 10 per cent of class
Deadline: October 15
Contact: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs





5 Academic Information

Registration

In order to register, the entering first-year student must:

1. fulfill all prior academic requirements before the stated enrollment date;
2. remit tuition and fees as specified in a written communication from the Registrar within the designated time limit; and
3. report for registration as specified in the communication from the Registrar and participate in formal registration procedures.

Second-, third-, and fourth-year students in the four-year program and second-year students in the two-year accelerated program may pre-register by mail.

Grading Policy

In lecture and laboratory, students are evaluated primarily on the basis of academic performance. Technical skill, applied knowledge, clinical judgment, patient handling skills, demeanor, and attitude are considered in the evaluation of student performance in clinical training.

During the first two years of the four-year program, students are graded as follows:

- A = highest academic achievement (4 quality points)
- B = outstanding academic achievement (3 quality points)
- C = adequate performance (2 quality points)
- D = minimal passing grade (1 quality point)
- F = failing (0 quality points)
- I = incomplete

Clinical courses are graded pass/fail throughout the program.

In the third year, letter grades or pass/fail may be employed at the option of the instructor.

Fourth-year course grades appear as pass/fail on the academic transcript, although quantitative indices of performance are sometimes established for internal use.

Academic Status

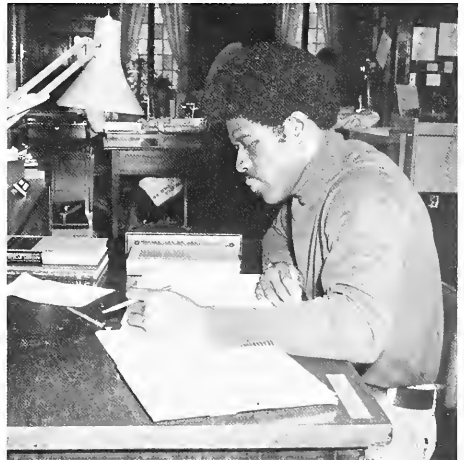
The College attempts to identify students experiencing difficulty as early in their academic careers as possible.

At mid-term, each faculty member provides the names of students who have academic problems. These students are asked to meet with the chairman of the Student Affairs Committee or, at the student's option, with the full Committee. The Committee attempts to make specific recommendations to improve the student's performance.

At the end of each grading period, the faculty meets to discuss the academic performance of each student.

Students who are judged to have significant academic problems at the end of the grading period are required to meet with the Student Affairs Committee.

If, as a result of this meeting, specific courses of remediation cannot be offered, one of three courses of action generally is taken: the student is issued an academic warning, put on academic probation, or dismissed from the College.



Academic Warning

An academic warning is issued when performance is marginal in general or in specific areas. The notification indicates that more stringent action will be taken if performance does not improve. Generally, a student receiving one D or earning a cumulative grade point average between 2.0 and 2.2 will be placed on academic warning.

Academic Probation

A student will be placed on probation if any of the following occurs:

- (1) the student receives one F or two D grades in one grading period;
- (2) an academic warning issued in writing by the Student Affairs Committee is not removed to the satisfaction of the instructor and the Committee by the end of the next grading period.



Dismissal

A student is subject to dismissal from the College if any of the following occurs:

- (1) the student receives two F grades or more than two D grades in one grading period;
- (2) the student fails to present himself or herself for scheduled classes or clinics for more than one week without obtaining consent of the Academic Dean;
- (3) the student's cumulative grade point average remains below 2.2;
- (4) the student is found guilty by the Student Affairs Committee of unprofessional conduct;
- (5) the student fails to remove an academic probation status by the end of the next grading period.

If in the judgment of the Student Affairs Committee the presence of any other conditions indicates that the student is unsuited to study in the College and/or to the future practice of optometry, the student shall be subject to dismissal from the College.

Students dismissed for *disciplinary* reasons are not permitted readmission to the College.

Students dismissed for *academic* reasons and subsequently denied readmission may appeal to a hearing board composed of representatives of the faculty, student body, and administration. Appeals may be initiated by contacting the chairman of the Student Affairs Committee.

Academic Commendation

Letters of commendation are sent to students whose work the faculty judges to be outstanding, and such students become eligible for nomination to the Beta Sigma Kappa honorary optometry society. Selection criteria for Beta Sigma Kappa are described on page 39.

A number of awards are presented for academic and clinical excellence. Presentation criteria are available from the office of the Dean of Student Affairs. Awards presented by the College include the following:

The New England College of Optometry Clinic Award

Daniel Kuperstein Memorial Award

Valedictory Award

Beta Sigma Kappa Silver Medal Award

Dr. Ralph H. Green Gold Medal Award

Dr. Edward Joseph Troendle, Jr., Award

The New England College of Optometry-Fisher

Junior College Technician Award

Keystone Award for the Outstanding Pediatric and Binocular Vision Clinician

Robert Morgan Community Health Service Award

Alumni Association Award

Frederick E. Farnum Alumni Award

Bausch and Lomb Contact Lens Award

Awards presented by the American Optometric Foundation include:

Harold Kohn Memorial Award

J. Harold Bailey Award

Irvin M. Borish Award

Frederick W. Brock Award

Glenn Fry Award

Spurgeon B. Eure Award



Withdrawal

A student in good academic standing who is not subject to disciplinary penalties is entitled to honorable withdrawal from the College at any time. A student desiring to withdraw must notify the Academic Dean and the Student Affairs Committee in writing at least two weeks prior to final exams.

A student who has been granted an honorable withdrawal from the College may be reinstated within a reasonable period of time, provided that changes in the curriculum do not make such readmission impractical. Decisions in all cases rest with the Student Affairs Committee.



Degree Regulations

Students in the four-year program may earn one or both of the following degrees.

Bachelor of Science in Optometry (B.S.)

Students who have completed a minimum of sixty semester hours or equivalent (twenty hours of which must be in social sciences and twenty hours of which must be in humanities, and none of which may have been applied toward a prior baccalaureate degree) may apply for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Optometry. The degree is awarded on the recommendation of the faculty and by approval of the Board of Trustees upon successful completion of the first two years of the four-year program.

Doctor of Optometry (O.D.)

The Doctor of Optometry degree is the professional degree and is a prerequisite of licensure eligibility. Award of the degree is made by the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the faculty following satisfactory completion of the professional curriculum in optometry.

The College also awards the following honorary degrees:

Doctor of Ocular Science (D.O.S.)

This degree is conferred upon those who have rendered distinguished service to the profession of optometry and/or to the field of visual science.

Doctor of Humane Letters (H.L.D.)

This degree is conferred upon individuals who have been outstanding benefactors to the College and/or have rendered distinguished service to the community, state, or nation.

Grievance Procedure

It is believed that sound educational policies in conjunction with a practical affirmative action program are the most effective means of insuring fair and equitable educational opportunities. However, it is also recognized that changing institutional and individual needs; the human element in relations among students, faculty, and administration; and the complexities of personal interaction within the educational environment require mechanisms whereby students can seek redress or adjustment of conditions that affect them.

The College's grievance procedure has been designed to meet that need. The College's Affirmative Action Officers provide avenues for constructive criticism and proposed changes in policy or organization.

Any student who feels he or she has been discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, should detail the grievance in writing to the Dean of Student Affairs. If, within ten days, the Dean of Student Affairs has been unable through informal efforts to resolve the issue to the mutual satisfaction of all, the Dean will appoint a Grievance Committee. The Committee will include the Academic Dean; the Dean of Student Affairs; two Student Council members, who, at the option of the aggrieved student, can be selected by the aggrieved student; and the Director of Institutional Affairs, who will chair the committee. The Grievance Committee will meet within fifteen days from the date the written grievance is received by the Dean of Student Affairs. If the Grievance Committee does not resolve the issue within thirty days, assistance will be sought from the D.H.E.W. Region I Office of Civil Rights.





6 Student Services

Counseling

The College offers appropriate counseling to students whose academic progress is impeded either by a personal problem or an academic deficiency.

Students requiring psychological counseling are referred, at no cost to them, to a psychologist in private practice, upon approval of the Dean of Student Affairs. Such counseling is treated as confidential.

A tutorial system for students also is maintained. The program is administered by the Dean of Student Affairs.

Housing

The College has no dormitory facilities, and students must be prepared to make their own arrangements for locating suitable living accommodations in the Boston area. The College assumes no formal responsibility for finding these accommodations, but a copy of *A Renter's Guide to Boston* is on hand in the College library, and the office of the Dean of Student Affairs can provide helpful tips and occasionally information as to other students seeking roommates.

The campus is located within walking distance of numerous apartment facilities and is three blocks from the nearest subway stop.

Health Insurance

While the College does not maintain a health insurance program, it does provide information concerning a group insurance plan which includes major medical, illness, and hospital benefits. Brochures are mailed directly to all students. Enrollment is optional. Additional forms are available during registration. Rates for this insurance are relatively low because it is a group program designed especially for students. Enrollment is open only at the beginning of the school year.

Placement

The College's placement services in the past have consisted largely of informal efforts to make graduating optometrists aware of positions and practices available. Plans currently are being made to expand these efforts through cooperation with state societies of optometry and other schools of optometry.







7 Student Activities

Student Council

The Student Council governs the internal affairs of the student body.

It is comprised of the class officers of each of the classes in the regular four-year program, two representatives each from the accelerated two-year O.D. degree program, and one representative from the College's American Optometric Student Association chapter.

The Student Council processes the student activity fees and is responsible for managing the budget of the student body.

Other activities of the Student Council include:

- a Student Judiciary Committee, established to consider disciplinary and other problems
- promotion of good relations among students, faculty, and administration
- maintenance of the student recreation room and the photography darkroom
- sponsorship of various social activities.

The President of the Student Council is a voting member of the College's Board of Trustees.

Class Organization

Each class may arrange its internal structure as it chooses, provided that its arrangement does not violate the Student Council constitution. Each class is responsible to the Student Council on matters affecting the entire student body.

Participation in Institutional Governance

Representatives of the student body serve on the Board of Trustees, the Admissions Committee, the Student Affairs Committee, and the Curriculum Committee. The presidents of the third- and fourth-year classes and the president of the Student Council serve on the executive council of The New England College of Optometry Alumni Association.



The American Optometric Student Association

The American Optometric Student Association (AOSA) is a national organization of optometry students whose purposes are to enhance the visual welfare of the public, to contribute to the education and welfare of the optometry student bodies, and to improve the student societies in each optometry school.

The national structure of AOSA consists of an executive council made up of four elected national officers and a board of trustees composed of one student from each of the thirteen schools of optometry in the United States.

AOSA committees — functioning at national, regional, and local levels — provide opportunities for participation in such areas as education, intraprofessional liaisons, public health, minority recruitment, national affairs, and financial aid.

AOSA also publishes the *American Optometry Student Review*, a national student newspaper which reports on student activities at all schools.

Beta Sigma Kappa

The College's chapter of Beta Sigma Kappa, an international optometric honor society, was chartered in 1976.

The purposes of the honor society are to award recognition for high scholarship and to encourage scientific interest within optometry.

Invitation to membership is extended at the end of each academic year to students who have attained a grade point average (or equivalent) of 3.5 or better at the end of the first year, 3.4 for the first two years, 3.3 for the first three years, and 3.2 for the entire four years.

Camera Club

Because the technical content of optometric studies is so closely related to photography, the College's Camera Club is generally a very active one. Dark room facilities are available to students interested in furthering their photographic interests and expertise.





8 College Facilities

Applied Research Laboratories

The College's four Applied Research Laboratories are concerned with four major areas: instrumentation, ocular components, ophthalmic materials, and clinical techniques research and evaluation.

These independent research facilities have been established to help speed the application to patient care of developing knowledge and technology in optics and the visual sciences.

There are occasional opportunities for student participation (at both graduate and post-graduate levels) in ARL research projects.

Bookstore

The bookstore supplies students with texts, scientific instruments, equipment, and other necessary student supplies.

Most study units use at least one textbook, and, while it is not College policy to require the purchase of textbooks, their purchase is strongly recommended by the faculty. In general, copies of each recommended text will be available in the College library, but not in sufficient numbers to meet the full needs of a class. Copies of all recommended textbooks will be available through the bookstore. The cost of textbooks, during the first two professional years, should not exceed \$175 each year. Cost during subsequent years will be substantially less.

New students are required to equip themselves with hand instruments and a trial case in the first semester. The cost of these items is approximately \$450. Instruments are available at the bookstore.

The bookstore is operated for the convenience of students, and items are priced about 12 per cent above cost.





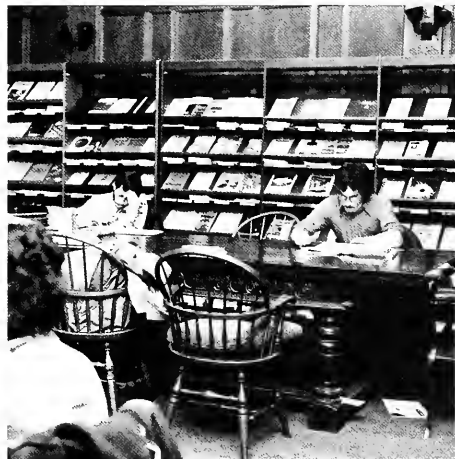
Library

The library occupies three floors of an Italian Renaissance style townhouse built in 1894, the year the College was founded. In this Victorian setting, two professional librarians and their support staff provide the services of a modern instructional materials center.

There is an extensive collection of materials relating to vision care in both print and non-print formats. There are rooms for quiet reading, areas for small groups to study together, carrels equipped for playback of a variety of audio-visual materials, and a photocopying center. Reference services and bibliographic instruction are available during all open hours.

From September through May, the library is open daily, except legal holidays. During the summer months and vacation periods, it is open during business hours on weekdays and in the evening by appointment.

The library is a member of the Medical Library Association.





9 Special Programs

The Accelerated Two-Year Program

To be considered for admission to the two-year program, the applicant must hold (or be a candidate for and anticipate receiving by the time of matriculation) an earned doctorate in one of the biological, physical, or behavioral sciences. In addition, the applicant must have demonstrated high scholarship in graduate study and be strongly motivated to enter the profession of optometry.

The two-year program is designed to take advantage of the intensive backgrounds of the students, their ability for concentrated independent

study, and previously developed educational skills.

Admission procedures are the same as those for the four-year program. Students entering the two-year program are expected to attend an interview at the College to determine their suitability for the study of optometry and to assess their potential contributions to the profession. In initial letters of inquiry, eligible students should indicate their desire to enter the two-year program, and should note this also on their application forms.

See page 23 for tuition information for the accelerated two-year program.



Optometric Technicians Program

The New England College of Optometry and Fisher Junior College jointly offer a two-year program for optometric technicians leading to the Associate in Science degree with a major in optometric technicianry.

Fisher Junior College, located in the Back Bay, provides the required liberal arts and business education, and The New England College of Optometry provides technical training and education.

There is increasing need for trained paraprofessionals who can assist optometrists. Graduates of this program bring to their work training in optometric procedures, secretarial office procedures, and substantial study in the liberal arts.

The program is accredited by the American Optometric Association, and graduates qualify for listing in the National Registry of Optometric Technicians.

Students are required to participate in a four-week internship at an optometric clinic and/or office of a private practitioner at the end of each of the two years

of study. During this time, the student receives training in office practice, dealing directly with patients in such areas as fitting and dispensing of prescription spectacles, visual training, instruction in contact lens hygiene and care, and vision screening. Internship placement is subject to approval of the director of the Optometric Technicians Program.

In addition to the two-year program, a one-year accelerated program exists for transfer students with appropriate college credits. Transfer students take an intensive summer program which concentrates on material covered in the first academic year, then enter the second academic year with students from the two-year pattern.

Admission to the two-year optometric technicians program is dependent upon graduation from an approved secondary school and a suitable high school transcript. Submission of S.A.T. scores is desirable. Admission to the accelerated one-year program requires the above plus the successful completion of at least one year at an accredited college or university, and transcripts of college work.



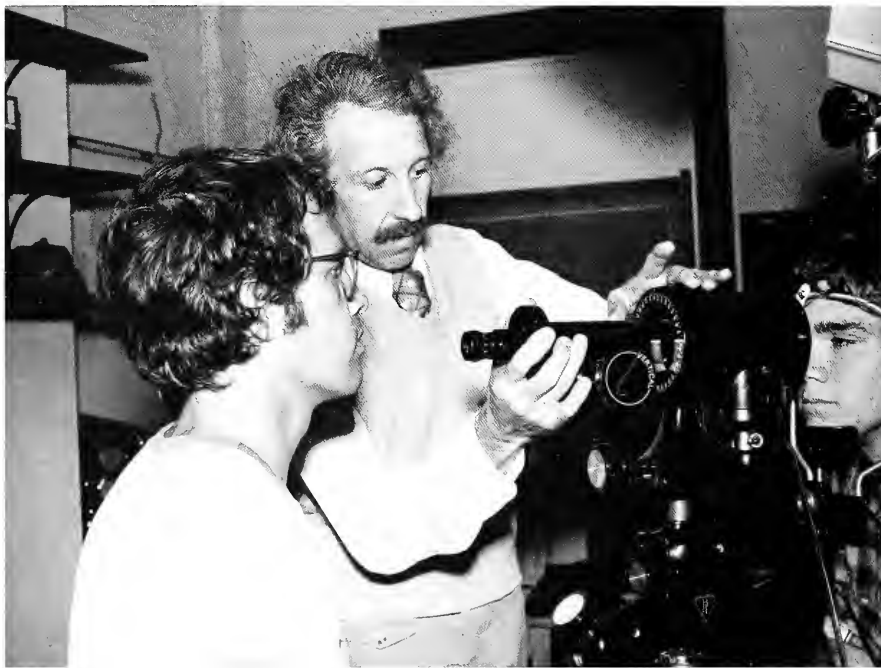
Admission procedures for both programs are directed by Fisher Junior College, and interested applicants should direct their inquiries to:

Director of Admissions
Fisher Junior College
118 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

The New England College of Optometry also conducts an in-office study program for optometric assistants interested in upgrading their skills to the level of optometric technicians while continuing to hold a full-time job.

Students accepted into the in-office program must have a high school diploma or its equivalent, be employed by an optometrist, plan to remain working with the same optometrist for the duration of the program, and have the agreement of their employer to cooperate with the College in the prescribed methods of instruction.

Upon completion of the program, the student will receive a certificate of completion, as well as academic credit from the College which can be applied toward an associate's degree from Fisher Junior College.



Post-Doctoral Residencies in Pediatric and Rehabilitative Optometry

The College recently developed residency programs in both rehabilitative and pediatric optometry.

A one-year residency training program with an emphasis on rehabilitative optometry is offered in conjunction with the Veterans Administration. The resident's clinical training is provided by the V.A.'s Outpatient Clinic in downtown Boston.

Residencies in both pediatric and rehabilitative optometry are available through the College's Pediatric Optometry Specialty Clinic and Rehabilitative Optometry Specialty Clinic. Both clinics accept patients only by referral and are staffed by well-known professionals.

Applicants for these residencies should be recently-graduated optometrists with excellent scholastic records, strong clinical potentials, and profound interest in dealing with extraordinary visual problems.

Interested applicants should direct inquiries for additional information to:

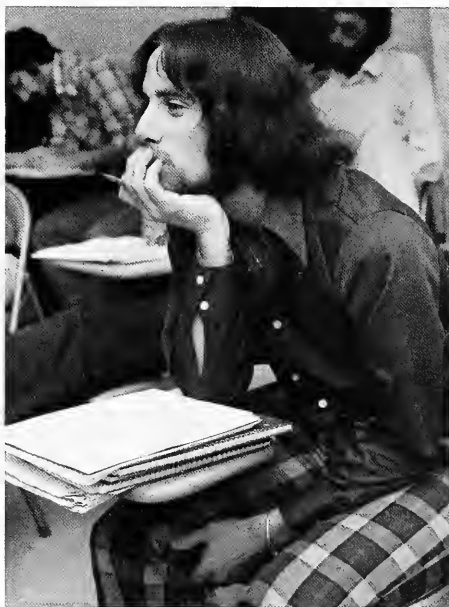
Academic Dean
The New England College of Optometry
424 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Continuing Education

The College considers continuing education a major institutional responsibility, and is dedicated to serving the needs of members of the profession throughout their careers.

Through its Continuing Education program the College offers special courses designed both to refresh the practitioner's skills and to help him or her keep up to date with advances in clinical techniques and science relevant to the practice of optometry.

The College's Continuing Education program has undertaken expanded regional and national responsibility by offering courses at sites throughout New England and in other parts of the country.





10 Directory

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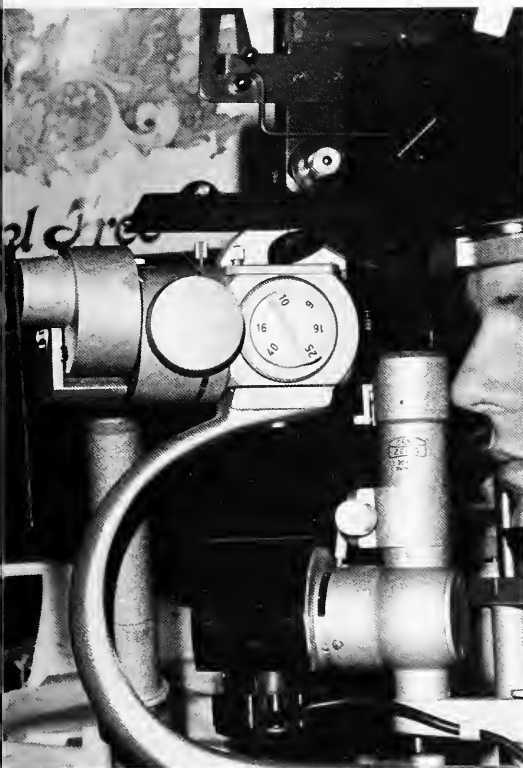
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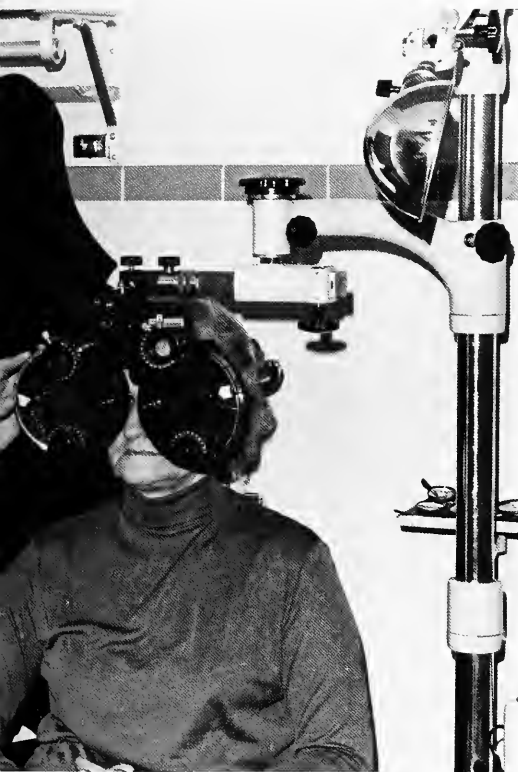
VS - Vision Sciences
 BHS- Basic Health Sciences
 OPT- Primary Optometry
 SCS- Special and Community Services

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- Jeffrey Morrill (OPT), *Instructor in Optometry*, O.D., MCO

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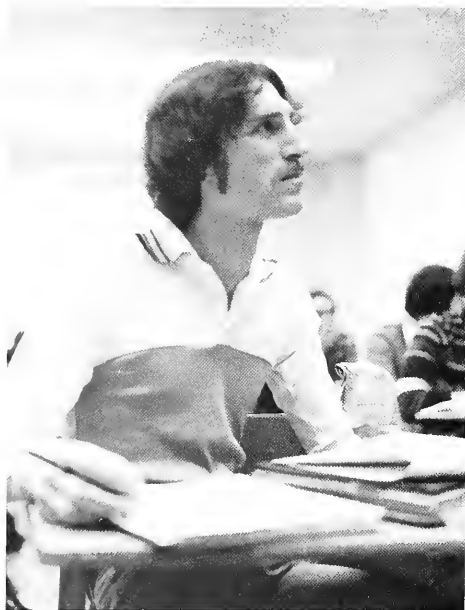


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George Courtney, O.D., *Central State Hospital*, Milledgeville, GA

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Neal Nyman, O.D., *Dorchester House Multi-Service Center, Eye Care Service*, Dorchester, MA

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Henry Turner, O.D., *Walter Reed Army Medical Center*, Washington, D.C.

Adjunct Clinical Teaching Associate

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Please address all correspondence to:
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